GEOGRAPHIC RESPONSE STRATEGIES: PART ONE – INTRODUCTION

Purpose and Scope

These Geographic Response Strategies (GRS) are designed to be a supplement to the Northwest Arctic Subarea Contingency Plan for Oil and Hazardous Substances Spills and Releases, commonly referred to as the Northwest Arctic Subarea Contingency Plan (SCP). GRS provide unified (public, responders, and agencies) priorities and response strategies for the protection of selected sensitive areas to aid first responders to an oil spill. The GRS list the sensitive resources of an area and the response strategies, equipment, personnel and logistical information necessary to protect the sensitive areas. Because the U.S. Coast Guard Marine Safety Office, Environmental Protection Agency and the Alaska Department of Environmental Conservation have already approved them, the GRS serve as pre-approved strategies of the Unified Command during the emergency phase of oil spill response.

Implementation of these Geographic Response Strategies is the third phase of an oil spill response. The first and primary phase of the response is to contain and remove the oil at the scene of the spill or while it is still on the open water, thereby reducing or elimi—nating impact on shorelines or sensitive habitats. If some of the spilled oil escapes this tactic, the second phase, which is no less important, is to intercept, contain and remove the oil in the nearshore area. The intent of phase two is the same as phase one: remove the spilled oil before it impacts sensitive environments. If phases one and two are not fully successful, phase three is to protect sensitive areas in the path of the oil. The purpose of phase three is to protect the selected sensitive areas from the impacts of a spill or to minimize that impact to the maximum extent practical.

The sites selected for development of Geographic Response Strategies are not meant to be exclusive; other sensitive sites may require protection during any given oil spill. The fact that a GRS may not have been developed for a certain sensitive site does not mean that site should not be protected if it is threatened by an oil spill.

These strategies are intended to be flexible to allow spill responders to modify them, as necessary, to fit the prevailing conditions at the time of a spill. In the arctic the seasonal constraint on oil spill operations are significant with ice and severe weather a factor for much of the year. These constraints may preclude implementation of some of the strategies. It is not intended that all the sites be automatically protected at the beginning of a spill, only those that are in the projected path of the spill. The strategies developed for the selected sites were completed with a focus on minimizing environmental damage, utilizing as small a footprint as needed to support the response operations and selecting sites for equipment deployment that will not cause more damage than the spilled oil. To test these GRS, each site may be visited and equipment deployed according to the strategy, to ensure that the strategy is the most effective in protecting the resources at risk at the site. Revisions will be made to the strategies, and this document, if changes are indicated by site visits, drills or actual use during spills.

The Northwest Arctic GRS Workgroup has divided the Subarea into 3 Geographic Response Zones (figure G-1-1) and directed that 63 sites be developed throughout the subarea. In the future, strategies may be developed for additional sensitive areas.

How to Use These Geographic Response Strategies

The information provided here supplements information provided in the Northwest Arctic SCP and the Alaska Federal/State Preparedness Plan for Response to Oil & Hazardous Substances Discharge/Releases (commonly referred to as the Unified Plan). Information provided in either of those plans is not duplicated herein. This document is intended for use by response professionals already familiar with spill response techniques.

The GRS contain basic protection and recovery strategies with directions for implementation in the field. Each description contains the strategy objective, deployment depictions, resource sets required to implement the strategy, and deployment considerations and limitations. These general strategies may be adapted to produce a protection scheme for any site in Northwest Arctic. The strategies are taken from the State of Alaska's oil spill response tactics guide, Spill Tactics for Alaska Responders (STAR Manual). Responders should use refer to the STAR manual for more detailed information about the GRS tactics. The STAR manual, published by ADEC, is available online at: http://www.dec.state.ak.us/spar/perp/star/docs.htm.

Part 2 contains site-specific response strategies. An index at the beginning of each sub-section shows the location of the selected sites. Each GRS consists of two parts: 1) a graphic showing a map, deployment diagram, picture and implementation notes; and 2) a matrix giving the location description, response strategy, response resources, staging area, site access, natural resources being protected and special considerations.

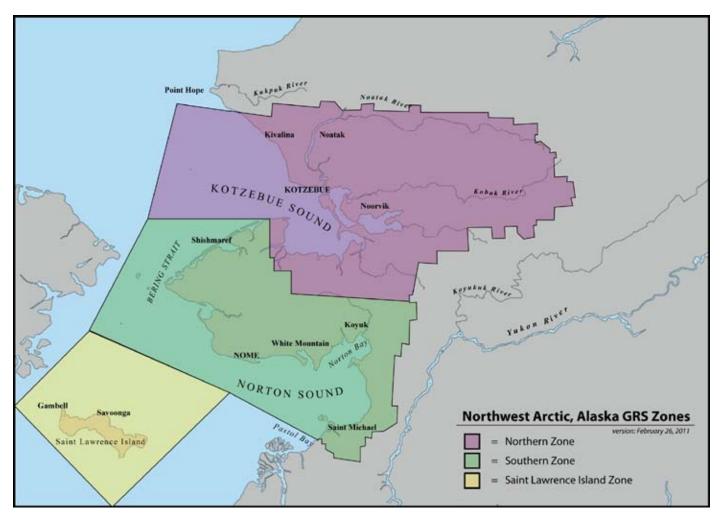


Figure G-1-1. Northwest Arctic Geographic Response Zones

Who to Contact for Input

Comments and recommendations on these GRS are welcomed. Please send your comments to either of the following agencies:

Alaska Department of Environmental Conservation Prevention and Emergency Response Program 555 Cordova Street Anchorage, AK 99501

United States Coast Guard Captain of the Port, Western Alaska 510 L Street Anchorage, AK 99501

July 2011 G-1-1 Northwest Arctic SCP: GRS, Part One

How the Document Was Developed

These GRS were developed through a cooperative, workgroup process involving federal, state, and local spill response experts working citizens' groups, local governments, and natural resource agencies. Workgroups were (or will be) formed for each response zone in the subarea.

Workgroup participants identified all sensitive areas with potential to be classified as "Areas of Major Concern" under the criteria established in the Northwest Arctic Subarea Plan. These potential sites were evaluated by the additional criteria of 1) risk of being im—pacted from a water borne spill; and 2) feasibility of successfully protecting the site with existing technology. Using this process, the workgroup selected a preliminary list of sites that was released for public input. Feedback on site selection was solicited from tribal representatives, user groups, environmental organizations and the general public. Based on the feedback received, the workgroup made the final site selections for the zone. Additional sites may be selected in the future.

A Northwest Arctic Tactics committee, composed of spill response professionals was formed to develop draft strategies for each site selected. Local input was gathered to understand local conditions that may affect response strategies. The draft strategies were reviewed and approved by the entire workgroup and the final draft was forwarded to the Northwest Arctic Subarea Committee with the recommendation that it be adopted as part of the Northwest Arctic SCP.

The Northwest Arctic Workgroup consisted of representatives from the following organizations:

Alaska Department of Environmental Conservation

Alaska Department of Fish and Game

Alaska Department of Natural Resources

Alaska Chadux Corporation

Bristrol Bay Native Association

Northwest Arctic Borough

The City of Nome

The City of Gambell

The City of Savoonga

Minerals Management Service

National Marine Fisheries Service

National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration

National Park Service

United States Coast Guard

United States Department of the Interior

United States Fish and Wildlife Service

The Workgroup developed Table G-1-1 to aid in the selection of sites from within the Northwest Arctic Subarea. The table consists of identified sites in each row with information about resources at each site that could qualify the site as an area of major concern detailed in the columns.

Selected for GRS	Priority	Location	Latitude	Longitude	Marine Mammals	Fish	Birds	Subsistence Cultur Resour	ces Comm.	Coastal Habitat	Land Mgt. Designation
Northern	Zone	a: 19 7	(5050 2 (D.)	1.65012.60111	DD		CHD	D. I.			
N-01	H	Singoalik Lagoon		165°13.62'W		TT		B,I		LLT, M,STF	BLM,SL
N-02	H			165°06.31'W		H		B,M,I			BLM,SL
N-03	H			164°50.03'W		H,AC		F,B,H,M,I			BLM
N-04	Н			164°39.91'W		H,C,Co,CH,P,S		F,B,M,I			N, NA
N-05	П			164°09.42'W		H,DV,WF,AC	SHBc,WFc	F E			BLM, N, NA, NF
N-06	Н			163°56.73'W		S,DV,WF,R,SC,AC	SHBc,WFc	EMI		M, LLT CD CDC	NF, NA NF. NA
N-07 N-08	П	Jade Creek & Kotlik Lagoon Cape Krusenstern & Aukulak Lag		163°48.95'W		DV,WF,R,SC,AC DV,H,R,SC,WF,AC		F,M,I F,M,I		M, LLT, GB,SRS TC, GB	NF, NA
N-08 N-09	Н		67°01.45'N			DV,AC,H,R,SC,WF	SHBc, WFc, SHBc, SI			M, STF	N, NA
N-10				162°29.92'W		C,Ch,DV,P,WF,AC		M,F,B		M, LLT, GB, STF,SRS	IN, INA
N-10	11 U			162°16.86'W		C,Ch,DV,P,WF,AC		F,M,B,I		Wi, LLI, GD, STF,SKS	IN, INA
N-12	<u>П</u>		66°58.77'N	161°40.27'W		Ch, DV,AC		F,B,M,I	-	M,GB,TC,EWP,EG	BLM, NA, NF, N, SNWR
N-13		Kobuk River Channel-barge route				C,Ch,DV,P,WF		F,B,M,I	$\frac{C}{C}$	M,EWP	NF, NA,SNWR
N-14	H			160°10.38'W		C,Ch,DV,P,WF,AC		F,B,M,I		IVI,E W I	INI, INA,SINWIK
N-15	H		66°37.13'N			SF,WF		F,B,M,I			SNWR
N-16				160°14.70'W		SF,WF		F,B,M,I			SNWR
N-17				162°32.32'W		H		F,B,M,I	-	M,GB	SNWR
N-18	H	Eschscholtz Bay/Buckland River				C,Co,DV,P,WF,AC	WFc, SBc,SBn	1,D,141,1		M,SRS,GB, LLT	SNWR
N-19	H			161°49.78'W	D 11	C,CO,D V,I, WI,IIC	SBc, SBn, WFc,SHbo	<u> </u>			BLM, NA, AMNWR
N-20				161°50.80'W		H,Ch,DV,		F,B,M,I			SL,NA
N-21	Н			162°43.61'W		H,Ch,DV,P,R,SC,AC		F,B,I			N, SL
N-22	Н	Nugnugluktuk River & Kougachu				H,P,AC		F,B,I		M,SRS,GB	NP, NA
N-23	Н		66°31.47'N	163°42.42'W		H	WFc,SBn,SHBc,	1,2,1		ETF,GB,M,SRS,LLT	NP
				163°46.04'W	PB	DV,P	SBc, SHBc,	F		LLT, M,STF	NF, NA
				163°14.93'W		DV,R,SC,WF		F,B,M,I		LLT, M,STF,GB	NF, NA
				161°58.57'W		Ch, DV, P, SHf, WF	SBc, SHBc, WFc	F	C	M, LLT,GB,	BLM, NA
		Melvin River	66°48.01'N	161°51.78'W		C,Ch,DV,P,SHf,WF	SBc, SHBc, WFc	F	С	M,ETF,STF,GB	N,SNWR
		Lewis Rich Channel	66°41.35'N	161°50.62'W		C,Ch,DV,P,WF	SBc, SHBc, WFc		С	M,EWP	N, SNWR
	Н	Riley Wreck	66°43.75'N	162°19.79'W				F		M, LLT,GB,	N
		Choris Peninsula	66°17.78'N	161°53.33'W			SBc, SHBc, SBn				BLM
			66°02.81'N	162°30.14'W		H,Ch,Co,DV,P,R,SC	WFc,SBc, SBn			M,SRS,GB	N, NA
		Kitluk River	66°34.80'N	164°23.76'W	SS,PB	H,P,AC	WFc,SBc			GB	NP ,NA
	ıthern Zo										
S-01		Cowpack Inlet		164°43.46'W		H,R,SC		F,B,M,I		M,ETF,SRS,GB	N, NA
				165°40.12'W		H,Ch,DV,WF,SF		F,B,M,I			N, NA
	H			166°48.35'W		H,DV,WF,AC		F,B,M,I			NP, N, NA
	H			167°07.05'W		H,DV,WF,SC,P,AC		F,B,M,I			NP, NA
	H			167°41.03'W		H,DV,WF,SC,P,CH,AC		F,B,M,I			NP, N, NA, BLM, AMNWR
	H			166°35.46'W		H,WF,P		F,B,M,I			N, NA
	Н			166°20.50'W	,	CH,WF,H,P		F,B,M,I			N, NA, BLM, M, SL
	H			166°28.93'W		TT	WFc,SBn,SHBc				N, NA
	H			166°37.67'W		H	WFc,SBc,SHBc,SBn	EDI			N, NA
	H			161°02.91'W		C,CH,CO,DV,WF,P,H	WFc,SBn,SHBc,CH				BLM, NA
	H	Feather/Tisuk Lagoon & Cape We				C,CH,CO,H,DV,WF,SC,P		F,B,M,I		M,STF,GB	N, NA
				166°14.25'W		C,CH,CO,H,DV,WF,P		F,B,M,I		M,GB,STF	N, NA
				165°49.27'W		S,CH,CO,H,DV,WF,P		F,B,I		M,GB,STF	SL M. CI
	H			165°25.48'W		C,CH,CO,H,DV,WF,P		r E		GB,	M, SL
	H			165°18.16'W		C,CH,CO,H,DV,WF,P	WE OD CID	FD M I		GB,M,STF	M, SL
				164°44.08'W		C,CH,CO,H,DV,WF,P		F,B,M,I		M,GB,STF	N, NA, BLM, AMNWR, SL
S-17	Н	Solomon & Bonanza Rivers	04 32./3 N	164°25.25'W	33, B3	C,CH,CO,H,DV,WF,SC,P,C	wrc,sbc,shbc	Γ		M,STF,GB	N, SL

Northwest Arctic Geographic Response Strategies Site Selection Matrix

					1					-		T
2 10				163°01.83'W		SC,H,WF,P	WFc,SBn,SHBc	F		C	GB,M	N, NA
				162°07.74'W		C,CH,CO,DV,WF,P	WFc,SBc	F		C	M,STF,GB	N
	Н			161°52.65'W				F,B,I		C	M,GB	N, NA
S-21	Н	Kwik River	64°47.68'N	161°42.48'W	SS, BS	C,CH,CO,H,DV,WF,P	WFc,SBc,SHBc	F		С	M,STF,GB	N, NA
				161°10.16'W		C,CH,CO,H,DV,WF,P,C,SH		F		С	M,STF,GB	N, NA
	Н			160°52.44'W		C,CH,P	WFc,SBc,SHBc	F		С	M,STF,GB	BĹM, N, NA
				160°55.57'W		C,CH,CO,DV,WF,P,S	WFc,SBc,SHBc	F			ETF,M,STF	BLM, N, NA
				161°23.81'W		C,CH,CO,H,DV,WF,P	WFc,SBc,SHBc	F		C	ETF,M,STF,GB	N
		Malikfik & Shaktoolik Bay/Tago						FRI		C	ETF,M,STF,GB	N, NA
				160°47.01'W		C,CH,CO,H,DV,WF,P,S		F,B,I		C	M,ERS	SL, N, NA
				162°02.08'W		C,CH,CO,H,DV,SH,P	WFc,SBn,SHBc,CH				GB, M,ETF	SL, N, NA
		St. Michael Channel & Kuiak Riv				C,CH,CO,H,DV,P	WFc,SBc,SHBc,CH	, ,			M,SRR	N, NA
				162°35.79'W		C,CH,CO,DV,WF,P	WFc,SBc,SHBc,CH	F,B,I			M,STF,GB	N, NA
				166°56.76'W		TT	THE CD				LOD ETTEL	
				166°07.41'W		Н	WFc,SBn				GB,ETF,M	N, NA
				168°56.79'W		V	SBc, SBn				ERS	N
				168°44.55'W			SBc, SBn				ERS	AMNWR
				168°01.81'W		Н	WFc,SBn,SHBc,PF				M,ERS,GB	SL, N
				167°50.87'W			WFc,SBc,SHBc, PF				ERS,GB	BLM, N
				166°12.68'W			WFc,SBn				GB,ERS	AMNWR
			64°27.11'N	165°06.67'W		DV,P	SBn			C	GB	M, SL
		Topkok Head & River	64°33.49'N	163°56.53'W	SS	P, DV	WFc,SBn,SHBc			С	M,GB,ERS	BLM, NA, AMNWR
				163°45.25'W		,	SBc, SBn				M,ERS,GB	
				163° 38.02'W							, ., .	
				163°06.44'W		Н	WFc,SBn,SHBc			С	ERS	N
				163°16.00'W		CH,CO,H,DV,WF,P	WFc,SBc,SHBc			C	M	N, NA
				162°52.26'W		H	WFc,SBn,SHBc				ERS	N
				162°11.91'W		H	WFc,SBc	 			GB,ERS	IN
				161°18.78'W		<u>p</u>	WFc,SBc,SHBc	 		С	M,STF,GB	N, NA
				161°04.42'W	+	1	WFc,SBc,SHBc				M,GB,STF	N, NA
				161°31.85'W	1	Н	WFc,SBc,SHBc,CH			C	ERS	IN INC
				161°18.29'W			WFc,SBn,SHBc,CH			C	ERS,GB	AMNWR
										C		
				160°55.63'W		C,CH,CO,H,DV,WF,P	WFc,SBn,SHBc,CH			C	M,G,ERS	N, NA
				160°53.02'W		DV,P	WFc,SBc,SHBc,CH			C	ERS,GB	N, NA
				161°26.45'W		H	WFc,SBn,SHBc,CH			C	ERS,GB	BLM, N, NA
				161°44.75'W		H	WFc,SBn,CH			C	ERS	NA
				162°28.14'W		Н	WFc,SBn,CH			C		N, NA
			64°58.19'N	168°03.94'W	W		WFc,SBn,CH			С	ERS,GB	N
		Saint Lawrence Island Zone										
GRS Index #	Priority	Location	Latitude	Longitude	Marine Mammals	Fish	Birds	Subsistence	Cultural Resources		Coastal Habitat	Land Mgt. Designation
SL-01	H	Magneg Lagoon and River	63°07.47'N	169°25.20'W	SS, BS	WF, R, SC	WFc,SBn,SHBc	F		C		N
SL-02		Tapisagek River & Qitnegaq Bay				DV,P		F,B,M,I		С		N
SL-03		Sipenpak Lagoon	63°20 59'N	169°16.41'W	ISS. BS	WF, R, SC		F,B,M,I		Ċ		l _N
SL-04		Tamniq Lagoon	63°21 60'N	169°27.53'W	ISS BS	WF, R, SC		F,B,M,I		Ć		N
SL-05		Unguuvigaq Lagoon & Unguuvig				WF, R, SC		F,B,M,I		Č		N
SL-05		Kangii Bay Lagoons	63°35 01'N	171°03.90'W	SS RS	WF, R, SC		F,B,M,I		C		ln
SL-07				171°27.05'W		WF, DV		F,B,M,I		C		N
				171°43.08'W		νν Ι', D ν		F,B,M,I		C		IN
SL-08		Votaginalak	62024 07NI	171040 621117	I VV					C		IN
SL-09		Ketngipalak	(2020 CONT	171°49.63'W	00			F,B,M,I		C		IN
SL-10				171°38.70'W				F,B,M,I		C		IN IN
				168°49.41'W		WED GG	WFc, SBc, CH	EDIA		C		IN IN
1		Kiloknak Lagoon	[63°10.32'N	168°49.47'W		WF,R,SC	WFc, SBc, CH	F,B,M,I		C		IN

Northwest Arctic Geographic Response Strategies Site Selection Matrix

		170°02.63'W		WF,DV	SBc	F,B,M,I	C	N
		170°03.32'W			SBc		C	N
		170°24.70'W			SBc	M,I	C	N
		171°26.81'W	SSL			M,I	C	N
		170°52.60'W		WF, R, SC, DV	WFc,SBc,SHBc	F,B,M,I	C	N
Eastern Naayvaghlak Lagoon	63°19.36'N	170°26.22'W		WF, R, SC, DV	WFc,SBc,SHBc	F,B,M,I	C	N
		169°48.64'W	SS	WF, R, SC, DV	WFc,SBc,SHBc	F,B,M,I	C	N
Southeast Cape	62°47.36'N	169°40.01'W				M,I	C	N
Maknik Lagoon	63°11.77'N	169°09.73'W		WF, R, SC, DV	WFc,SBc,SHBc	F,B,M,I	C	N

Northwest Arctic GRS Site Selection Matrix KEY

Marine Mammals	Fish	Intertidal	Birds	Subsistence	Cultural Resources	Comm.Fish	Coastal Habitat	Land Mgt. Designation
S = Harbor Seal	S = Sockeye Salmon	-	WFc = Waterfowl concentration area	F = Fish		C = Commercial fishing	LLT= Low lying Tundra	TL = Tidelands leases, permits, & right-of-ways
SL = Sea Lion	P = Pink salmon		SHBc= Shorebird concentration area		R = REPORT any cultural resources found during operations to FOSC Historic Properties Specialist. I = FOSC Historic properties specialist should INSPECT site prior to operations. M = FOSC Historic		M= Marsh	SL=State Lands
W=Walrus	Co = Coho Salmon		Bc= Seabird Concentratio	I = Invertebrates			STF= Sheltered Tidal Flats	SP = State Park
PB=Polar Bear	C=Chinook		Sbn=Seabird Nesting	M = Marine Mammals			GB= Gravel Beaches	BO = NW Arctic Borough
SS=Spotted Seal	Ch = Chum Salmon		CH=Critical Habitat	O = Otters			RS= Sheltered Rocky Sho	CH = Critical Habitat
RS=Ringed Seal	DV = Dolly Varden Char			C=Crabs			TC= Tundra Cliffs	AMNWR = Alaska Maritime National Wildlife Refuge
BS=Bearded Seal	SC=Saffron Cod			B = birds			P= Exposed wavecut platf	N = Native owned
	H = Herring Spawning			H=Herring				S = State owned
	AC=Arctic Char							P = Private owned
	SH= Steelhead trout							BLM = Bureau of Land Mngt.
	RS=Rainbow Smelt							NWR-National Wildlife Refuge
Ringed Seals and Spotted Seals are								NP-National Park
present throughout the Subarea. Listing on the								M= Municipal
SSM indicates a high								NF=National Forest,
concentration area.	WF=White Fish				properties specialist should MONITOR			Monument, Recreational, and Conservation areas
					operations.			SNWR=Selawik National Wildlife Refuge